

10/781,784
FJ-2003-055-US

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REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper because it narrows the issues on appeal and does not require further searching by the Examiner. In particular, Applicant notes that claims 1, 17 and 18 have been amended to include the feature of allowable claim 3 and therefore, no Request for Continued Examination should be required for entry of this Amendment.

Claims 1-2 and 4-18 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 1, 17 and 18 have been amended to more particularly define the invention.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 4 and 8-16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant notes that claims 1, 17 and 18 have been amended to include the feature of allowable claim 3 and, therefore, all of the claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-2 and 4-18, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 5/19/08


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment was filed by facsimile with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Examiner Nicholas G. Giles, Group Art Unit # 2622 at fax number (571) 273-8300 this 19th day of May, 2008.


Phillip E. Miller
Reg. No. 46,060